

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-05 RSC-01 DRC-01 (ISO) W

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R 020055Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6427

UNCLAS TUNIS 4851

STATE FOR NEA/AFN

E.O.,11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, TS

SUBJ: WTDR ON TUNISAVIA, VOLUNTARY

1. ADDRESS: 35 RUE GAMEL ABDEL NASSER, TUNIS.

TELEX: CTAMA-TUNISAVIA 12451. PHONE: 256.850. OFFICERS:

MR. SLAHEDDINE FERCHIOU, PRESIDENT DIRECTOR GENERAL,

MR. JILANI BEMBAREK, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL.

2. CORPORATION FORMED IN JULY 1974 AS SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL
ENTERPRISE WITH PRIVATE PARTICIPATION. EMPLOYES 8. AIR
TAXI SERVICE. ULTIMATELY DOMESTIC AIRLINE (SEE NO. 5
BELOW).

3. FINANCIAL REFERENCE: BANQUE NATIONALE DE TUNISIE,
19 AVENUE DE PARIS, TUNIS. TRADE RERERENCE: HELI-UNION,
PARIS, FRANCE.

4. TUNISAVIA DOES NOT REPRESENT FIRMS.

5. TUNISAVIA WAS FECENTLY FORMED BY TUNIS AIR, THE
NATIONAL AIRLINE, BANQUE NATIONALE DE TUNISIE, ONE
OF THE MAJOR TUNISIAN BANKS, TOURIST AGENCIES, AN
INSURANCE COMPANY AND FRENCH AND TUNISIAN PRIVATE
BUSINESSMEN, TUNISAVIA NOW HAS TWO HELICOPTERS,
AN ALOUETTE II AND AN ALOUETTE III, AND ONTLUQHSEATER
"ISLANDER" BRITTEN NORMAN AA, OBTAINED ON CHARTER
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BASIS FROM THE FRENCH HELI-UNION COMPANY FOR TRANS-

PORATION OF OIL COMPANIES PERSONNEL, OTHER BUSINESSMEN, TOURISTS OR GENERAL PUBLIC. THESE AIRCRAFT WILL BE TAKEN OVER FROM HELI-UNION BASE AT SFAX. IN ADDITION, TUNISAVIA INTENDS PURCHASE NEXT FALL ONE HELICOPTER OF 4 TO 12 SEAT CAPACITY AND TWO PLANES, ONE OF 8-9 SEAT AND OTHER 20-25 SEAT CAPACITY IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH, PROBABLY NEXT YEAR, REGULAR SCHEDULED FLIGHTS TO MONASTIR, SFAX, GABES, DJERBA AND GAFSA. WILL PROBABLY ALSO EXPAND CHARTER SERVICE. FIRM FINANCIALLY BACKED BY SHAREHOLDING BANKS. MR. SLAHEDDINE FERCHIOU, PRESIDENT, IS ALSO MANAGER OF AN INSURANCE COMPANY. MR. BEMBAREK, WHO WAS WITH TUNIS AIR AS CHIEF OF THE PLANNING AND ECONOMIC STUDIES DEPARTMENT, STUDIED ENGINEERING AT THE FRENCH AERONAUTICAL SCHOOL. BOTH GENTLEMEN ARE YOUNG, DYNAMIC, AMBITIOUS, RELIABLE AND ABLE MANAGERS. TUNISAVIA IS RECOMMENDED AS A TRADE CONTACT FOR US FIRMS.

6. DATE INFO: 8/74.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 AUG 1974
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TUNIS04851
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740211-0358
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740876/aaaacntj.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <22 JAN 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WTDR ON TUNISAVIA, VOLUNTARY
TAGS: BEXP, TS
To: COM
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005